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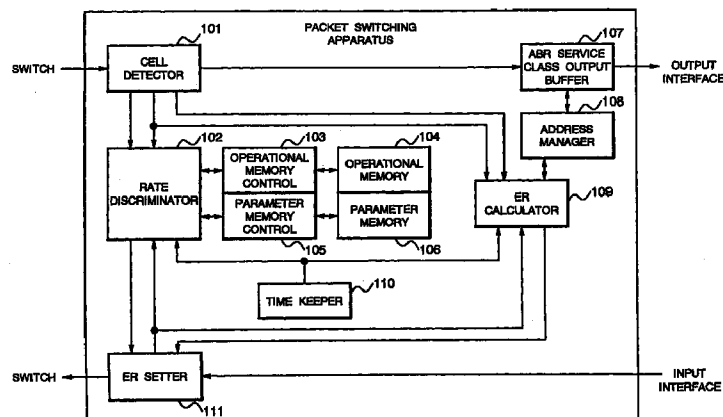
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(54) Apparatus and method for controlling allowed transmission rate in a packet switching network

(57) A packet switching apparatus is disclosed which is adapted to determine and control an allowed transmission rate of a transmitting terminal in a packet switching network. The packet switching apparatus comprises a rate discriminator (102) to monitor an interval of packet reception for each of connections, judge, based on the interval of packet reception, whether the transmitting terminal having sent the packet is in pause of transmission and determine a first allowed transmission rate for the transmitting terminal correspondingly to

a result of the judgment, an ER calculator (109) to calculate, based on a predetermined algorithm, a second allowed transmission rate for the transmitting terminal, and an ER setter (111) to select one of the first allowed transmission rate determined by the rate discriminator (102) and second allowed transmission rate calculated by the ER calculator (109), whichever is smaller, and write it into a packet returned to the transmitting terminal.

FIG. 1





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			H04Q H04L
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Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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